PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Duarte Miguel FRANCA TEIXEIRA DOS PRAZERES, et al.

Appln. No.: unassigned

Confirmation No.: unassigned Group Art Unit: unassigned

Filed: January 17, 2002 Examiner: unassigned

For: PROCESS FOR THE CONTINUOUS PRODUCTION OF DIPEPTIDE CRYSTALS IN A MEMBRANE AND HYDRO-CYCLONE REACTOR USING A PEPTIDASE

[PCT/PT01/00008]

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to calculation of the filing fee and examination, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please enter the following amended claims:

4. (Amended) Process according to claim 1, characterised by the fact that it is used for the production of other dipeptides or dipeptide derivatives with the generic formula XY, starting from amino acids X and Y.

5. (Amended) Process according to claim 1, characterised by the fact that the synthesis process is chemical and non enzymatic.

6. (Amended) Process according to claim 3, characterised by the fact that instead of a hydro-cyclone, another unit is coupled to the system which also enables the continuous sedimentation and removal of the crystals from the system.

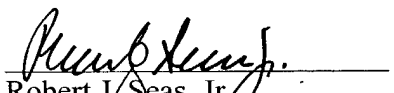
7. (Amended) Process according to claim 1, characterised by the fact that the resulting crystals are further purified by re-crystallisation in an adequate solvent.

REMARKS

By this Amendment, Applicant has amended claims 4-7 to eliminate multiple dependencies.

Entry and consideration of this Amendment is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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Date: January 17, 2002

APPENDIX

VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

IN THE CLAIMS:

The claims are amended as follows:

4. (Amended) Process according to [claims] claim 1, [2 and 3] characterised by the fact that it is used for the production of other dipeptides or dipeptide derivatives with the generic formula XY, starting from amino acids X and Y.

5. (Amended) Process according to [claims] claim 1, [2, 3 and 4] characterised by the fact that the synthesis process is chemical and non enzymatic.

6. (Amended) Process according to [claims] claim 3, [4 or 5] characterised by the fact that instead of a hydro-cyclone, another unit is coupled to the system which also enables the continuous sedimentation and removal of the crystals from the system.

7. (Amended) Process according to [claims] claim 1, [2, 3, 4, 5 and 6] characterised by the fact that the resulting crystals are further purified by re-crystallisation in an adequate solvent.